(d) which are the places in Tamil Nadu Affected by tanneries; and

(e) what steps Government are intending to take to save human souls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Government has laid down standards for discharge of tannery effluents in order to protect the environment, including agricultural land, from degradation. These standards are enforced by the State Pollution Control Boards and the Pollution Control committee set up in the Union Territories. The issue of compensation for damage to land and adverse health effects is decided on a case by case basis by the appropriate authority in each State.

(c) and (d) As per the information provided by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, 15762 hectares out of 592018 in North Arcot district have been affected due to pollution from tanneries. Some areas in other districts such as Chingleput MGR, Periyar, Trichy and Dindigul have also been affected.

(e) The Government has formulated a scheme for setting up Commen Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for clusters of small scale industries, including tanneries. The Central Government provides 25 per cent of the capital cost subejct to a limit of Rs. 50 lakhs and a corresponding grant from the State Government. Of the 880 tanneries in Tamil Nadu, 708 are covered by CETPs while 91 have individual treatment facilities. The remaining tanneries are in the process of installing treatment plants.

Posting of IPS cadre officers in Home Circle

2194. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an IPS cadre officer of the Postal Department is entitled for posting in his/her home circle for 25 years;

(b) if not, the reasons for retention of the present Post master General, North Region, Bihar, Muzaffarpur in his home circle for nearly 25 yers;

(c) whether Secretary, Department of Post has received a representation dated 7th March 1995 containing allegations of corruption etc. against the Post Master General, North Region, Muzaffarpur, Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken in the matter!

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Posting and transfers of Indian postal Service Officers are made keeping in view the operational requirements and the precribed procedures in this regard.

(b) The concerned officer has served in different spells in his home circle for about 15 years.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Appropriate enquiry has been initiated into the allegations.

suitable steps have been subsequently taken to ensure effective management and a proper working environment, by posting senior and experienced officer to look after the charge of the Head of the Bihar Postal Cicle.

Construction of Power project without Clearance under Forest Conservation act in Sikkim

2195. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as reported in a number of National dailies that the Rathongchu Hydel Power Project in West Sikkim is going to be the "Tehri of the East" as the State Government has not Fulfilled the conditions imposed by the Ministry;